HOMEWORK POLICY – 2014

To be reviewed: 2017

RATIONALE:

Homework is designed to reinforce and practise the work that students do at school and to help students develop organisational and time management skills. Homework helps students by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning, fostering effective and learning and study habits. Homework is another opportunity for parents to participate in their child’s education.

AIMS:

• To give parents the opportunity to observe, discuss and support their child in their learning school.

• To encourage the student's independent learning through the development of organisational and time-management skills, self-discipline, and skills and in using out-of-school resources.

• To encourage personal responsibility for learning.

• To develop the student’s commitment to complete set tasks and return them within the allocated time.

• To encourage the enjoyment of reading.

IMPLEMENTATION:

1. The Student’s Responsibilities:

• For students is Levels Three to Six to use their diaries effectively and organise their homework materials.

• To complete set homework to the best of their ability.

2. The Parent's Responsibilities:

To:

• Show a positive attitude towards their child's work.

• Encourage their child/ren to develop good study patterns from early primary school.

• Make available a suitable time and place in which their child can complete their work.

• Notify the teacher if difficulty is being experienced with the tasks set, or the time taken.

• Sign and date diaries for students from Levels Three – Six at least once per week, to show that they have seen the homework.
• Notify the teacher if their child has been unable to undertake a particular homework task.

• Read regularly with/to their child or provide the appropriate environment for their child to read independently.

• Help their child to complete homework by discussing key questions or directing them to resources. Usually it is better to encourage children to complete homework themselves.

3. The Teacher's Responsibilities:

To:
• Ensure that parents and caregivers are aware of the school’s Homework Policy.

• Provide homework tasks and adequate explanation to enable the student to successfully complete their work.

• Be involved in the homework tasks through discussion with the child.

• Check and correct homework and if, unfinished/unsatisfactory, inform parent as required.

• Set regular homework to encourage students to establish a home study routine.

• Set varied and meaningful tasks related to class work that is appropriate to the students’ learning needs, and communicate with parents as necessary.

• To communicate with parents as necessary.

• Homework tasks to be modified as required.

• Give students enough time during the week to complete homework, taking into account home obligations and extracurricular activities.

• Make effective use of diaries for Level Three to Six and contact parents when necessary.

• Help students to develop the organisational and time-management skills needed for them to be responsible for their own learning.

• Provide timely and constructive feedback and support.

• Recognise that some students do not have access to adequate resources at home and to provide the required resources at school to assist with the completion of set tasks.
4. **Recommended Homework:**

- Homework tasks will be set so that the student should be able to perform the work within a set timeframe.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Duration/Frequency</th>
<th>Possible tasks</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foundation - 2</td>
<td>Occasional (Weekly)</td>
<td>Activity related to the curriculum e.g. Mathematics activities, Spelling activities (letter and sounds of the alphabet, high frequency words)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>Reading to / with / by parent</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 and 4</td>
<td>An average of one hour per week</td>
<td>Activities related to the curriculum. Research exercises may be given. Religious Education: Gospel of the Week as located in the Student Diary.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading for 15 minutes daily</td>
<td>Students should read daily from a wide range of materials e.g. novels, sporting articles, newspapers, etc. both independently and/or with a parent.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 and 6</td>
<td>An average of 90 mins per week</td>
<td>Activities related to the curriculum. Research exercises may be given. Religious Education: Gospel of the Week as located in the Student Diary.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading (15+ mins. daily)</td>
<td>Students should read daily from a wide range of materials e.g. novels, sporting articles, newspapers, etc. both independently and/or with a parent.</td>
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</tbody>
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- Homework will not be set for School Holidays or extended family holidays.

**EVALUATION AND REVIEW:**

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three-year cycle.

To evaluate the success of this Policy, feedback is welcomed. If at any time suggestions are received from a number of parents or teachers about changes/improvements, the staff and Education Board will then initiate a review.